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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/551,238	04/17/2000	KENNARD L WOTTOWA	ANDIP692	9703
29838	7590	10/04/2003	EXAMINER	
OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY, LLP (ACCENTURE) PLAZA VII, SUITE 3300 45 SOUTH SEVENTH STREET MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-1609			POINVIL, FRANTZY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3628	

DATE MAILED: 10/04/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/551,238

Applicant(s)

WOTTOWA ET AL.

Examiner

Frantzy Poinvil

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 July 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-21 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

As per claim 1, line 2 and line 3, "the user" lacks clear antecedent basis.

As per claim 11, line 4 and line 5, "the user" lacks clear antecedent basis.

As per claim 1, line 4 and line 5, "the user" lacks clear antecedent basis.

Claims not directly addressed are rejected based on their dependency.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Weiss et al. (US Patent No. 6,354,490) and further in view of Nishimura et al.

(JP404195256A).

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As per claims 1, 11 and 20, Weiss discloses a system in which a customer may use one of a plurality of devices including a personal computer to open an account at a financial institution. Note the abstract. A user may transmit account application including information related to the user and documentation related to the user. Note the abstract. A computer at the financial institution is used to create a profile for the customer based on the account application and to create an account for the customers. Note column 8, lines 57-68, column 90, lines 60-68 and column 6, lines 30-63 of Weiss. Weiss does not explicitly teach transmitting information relating to the created profile and account from a first computer to a second computer, and transmitting a generated notification from the second computer to the first computer. However, the Examiner asserts that it is well known in the banking industry for a bank to use more than one computer in their establishment and also to include a branch office and/or a regional office having at least one computer. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to also note that a branch office may transmit customers' account information to a regional office and the regional office may further update customers' information at the local, or branch office. Also, a final notification may also be made by the regional office or a related underwriter's office, which may transmit such to the branch office computer to be transferred or given to the customer.

Alternatively, Nishimura et al disclose a similar process. The system comprises a user at an automatic teller machine, ATM providing personal information that are stored in a RAM memory section of a computer. This information is later transmitted to a host computer 6 via an interface 46. The host computer 6 then generates a file and informs the opening of the account to an ATM 4. See the entire document. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

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art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Nishimura et al with Weiss in order to inform a remote customer of account information status. The motivation would have been to allow instant opening of an account thereby providing an attractive system.

As per claim 2, the combination of Weiss and Nishimura et al disclose utilizing a network.

As per claim 3, most customer accounts include an identifier associated with a particular customer so as to differentiate the different customers. The computers include a printer, which may be used for printing material with the identifier.

As per claims 4-6, most bank customers are usually identified by an identifier or identification. Generating an identifier associated with the customer utilizing the first computer would have been obvious to the skilled artisan in order to differentiate the different customers and also for data storage and retrieval purposes.

As per claim 7, note column 12, lines 60-67 and column 13, lines 45-59 of Weiss.

As per claim 8, sending the notification to the user via an electronic mail (e-mail) message would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art as the use of E-mail is well practiced in the art. Providing such in the combined teachings of Weiss and Nishimura would have been obvious to the skilled artisan in order to provide instant account status to a customer.

As per claims 9-10, as per the step of inputting at least a portion of the information included in the account application into the first computer prior to the generation of the customer profile, note column 9, line 40 to column 10, line 44 and column 11, lines 3-15 of Weiss.

As per claim 10, storing the created profile and account in a database coupled to the computer is taught on column 12, lines 26-30.

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Claims 12-19 recite similar limitations addressed in respective claims 2-5 and 7-10, and therefore claims 12-19 are rejected under a similar rationale applied to claims 2-5 and 7-10 above.


Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Frantzy Poinvil whose telephone number is (703) 305-9779. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 7:00AM-5:30PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9326 for Before Final actions and (703) 872-9327 for After Final actions.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

FP
9/24/03


FRANTZY POINVIL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
A4 3628